

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

**I. (a) PLAINTIFFS**

HAIHUA YAO & MING, Individually and as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Riuzhe Yao.

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff China

(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

**DEFENDANTS**

Brick Bodies Padonia, LLC  
American Pool, LLC

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Baltimore County, MD

(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Adam R. Leighton, Cohen and Cohen PC,  
122019th St NW # 500 Washington, DC 20036 - 202-955-4529

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) |

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES** (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)  
(For Diversity Cases Only)

	PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

**IV. NATURE OF SUIT** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b>	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act
<input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	<input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))
<input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury	<b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment
<input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument	<input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	<input type="checkbox"/> 368 Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights	<input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust
<input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	<input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 369 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent	<input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking
<input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud	<input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)	<input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending	<b>LABOR</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> 372 Other Personal Property Damage	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
<input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits	<input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 373 Property Damage	<input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit
<input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 374 Railway Labor Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV
<input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 Family and Medical Leave Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange
<input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise		<input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b>	<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<b>Habeas Corpus:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)	<input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters
<input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting	<input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee	<input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)	<input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
<input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	<input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	<input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration
<input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land	<input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/ Accommodations	<input type="checkbox"/> 530 General	<input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI	<input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty	<input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
<input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	<b>Other:</b>	<b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	<input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition		
		<input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement		
			<b>IMMIGRATION</b>	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	

**V. ORIGIN** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 Original Proceeding | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Removed from State Court | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Remanded from Appellate Court | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Reinstated or Reopened | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Transferred from Another District (specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  
**28 USC 1332(a)**

Brief description of cause:  
**Wrongful Death, Personal Injury**

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION  
UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

**DEMAND \$**

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  
**JURY DEMAND:**  Yes  No

**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY**

(See instructions):

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

07/29/2019

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

APPLYING IFFP

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

MAG. JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44****Authority For Civil Cover Sheet**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
  
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
  - United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
  - United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
  - Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  - Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
  
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
  
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions](#).
  
- V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
  - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
  - Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
  - Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
  - Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.
  - Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
  
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
  
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.
  - Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.
  - Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
  
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

**Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
Greenbelt Division

**HAIHUA YAO**, Individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of

**Ruizhe Yao**

Dongan Road 50  
Lane 12, Rm 2505  
Xuhui District, Shanghai, China 20032

and

**MING MA**, Individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Ruizhe Yao**

Dongan Road 50  
Lane 12, Rm 2505  
Xuhui District, Shanghai, China 20032

Plaintiffs,

v.

**BRICK BODIES PADONIA, LLC**

2430 Broad Avenue  
Timonium, MD 21093

Serve:

Jay L. Lenrow  
7 Saint Paul Street, Suite 600  
Baltimore, MD 21202

and

**AMERICAN POOL, LLC**

11515 Cronridge Drive, Suite Q  
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Serve:

CSC Lawyers Incorporating Service  
7 Saint Paul Street, Suite 820  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Defendants.

**Civil Action No.**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

**COMPLAINT**

**COME NOW** the Plaintiffs, Haihua Yao and Ming Ma, Individually and as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Ruizhe Yao, by and through counsel, and hereby bring this Complaint for damages against the Defendants, and aver the following:

**PARTIES AND JURISDICTION**

1. Plaintiff Haihua Yao is an adult resident of China who resides at the above-listed address. Plaintiff Yao is the surviving father of decedent Ruizhe Yao and co-personal Representative of the Estate of Ruizhe Yao.
2. Plaintiff Ming Ma is an adult resident of China who resides at the above-listed address. Plaintiff Ma is the surviving mother of decedent Ruizhe Yao and co-personal Representative of the Estate of Ruizhe Yao.
3. Defendant Brick Bodies Padonia, LLC (hereinafter "Brick Bodies") is a Maryland limited liability company with its principal place of business at the above-listed address.
4. Defendant American Pool, LLC (hereinafter "American Pool") is a Maryland limited liability company with its principal place of business at the above-listed address.
5. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) in that the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is between citizens of a foreign state and businesses with their principal place of business at the above-listed addresses. Upon reasonable belief, neither of Defendants' shareholders are citizens of China.
6. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) in that a substantial part of the events giving rise to this action occurred in this District.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

7. Plaintiffs Haihua Yao and Ming Ma are personal representatives of the Estate of Ruizhe Yao, who died from a drowning incident that occurred on December 2, 2018 at one of the swimming pools at the gym located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland owned and operated by Defendant Brick Bodies.

8. At all times relevant hereto, the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland was owned, governed, controlled and/or operated by Defendant Brick Bodies.

9. On or before December 2, 2018, Defendant Brick Bodies was responsible for hiring, supervising, and training lifeguards to supervise the swimming at the swimming pools located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland.

10. In addition or in the alternative, on or before December 2, 2018, Defendant American Pool was responsible for hiring, supervising, and training lifeguards to ensure the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pools located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland.

11. At all times relevant hereto, the aforementioned lifeguards were acting within the scope of their employment, agency and/or apparent agency with Defendant Brick Bodies.

12. In addition or in the alternative, at all times relevant hereto, the aforementioned lifeguards were acting within the scope of their employment and/or agency with Defendant American Pool.

13. On December 2, 2018, Ruizhe Yao was swimming at a swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland when he dropped below the water's surface.

14. On December 2, 2018, the lifeguards on duty at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland did not react to Ruizhe Yao's plight in time to save his life.

15. The death of Ruizhe Yao is the direct and proximate result of the negligent acts and/or omissions of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool without any contributory negligence on the part of Ruizhe Yao.

### **CAUSES OF ACTION**

#### **Count I – Negligence *Respondeat Superior* – Survival Action**

16. Plaintiffs incorporate and reallege all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

17. Plaintiffs Haihua Yao and Ming Ma are the Personal Representatives of the Estate of Ruizhe Yao and bring this survival action for the benefit of the Estate of the Decedent.

18. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies, by and through its lifeguards who are its employees, agents, apparent agents and/or servants of Defendant Brick Bodies, was responsible for ensuring the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

19. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies represented to Ruizhe Yao and other invitees that its lifeguards were its employees, which Plaintiff relied upon. Therefore, the lifeguards, even if directly employed by a different entity, were the apparent agents of Defendant Brick Bodies for purposes of the aforementioned duty, which it breached.

20. In addition or in the alternative, Defendant American Pool, by and through its lifeguards who are employees, agents, and/or servants of Defendant American Pool, was responsible for ensuring the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

21. Defendant Brick Bodies' and/or Defendant American Pool's breaches of the aforementioned duty include but are not limited to the following: failing to supervise persons swimming at the swimming pool, failing to properly monitor, failing to properly staff the pool, failing to properly supervise Ruizhe Yao, failing to react in a timely manner to a drowning incident, failing to initiate life saving procedures in a timely manner, and otherwise failing to act with reasonable care.

22. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Ruizhe Yao died.

23. As a further direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Plaintiffs and Ruizhe Yao were caused to suffer past, present, and future damages in excess of \$75,000, including but not limited to expenses for medical treatment, funeral expenses, physical pain and suffering, emotional pain and suffering, and mental fright and anguish.

**Count II – Negligent Hiring & Retention – Survival Action**

24. Plaintiffs incorporate and reallege all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

25. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies had a duty to ensure that lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees were qualified to react appropriately to a drowning incident, which it breached.

26. In addition or in the alternative, at all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies had a duty to ensure that lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees were qualified to react appropriately to a drowning incident, which it breached.

27. Defendant Brick Bodies' and/or Defendant American Pool's breaches of the aforementioned duty include but are not limited to the following: failing to ensure its lifeguards

were qualified to respond to drowning incidents, failing to provide appropriate training and supervision for lifeguards it hired, and otherwise failing to act with reasonable care under the circumstances.

28. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Ruizhe Yao died.

29. As a further direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Plaintiffs and Ruizhe Yao were caused to suffer past, present, and future damages in excess of \$75,000, including but not limited to expenses for medical treatment, funeral expenses, physical pain and suffering, emotional pain and suffering, and mental fright and anguish.

**Count III – Negligent Training & Supervision – Survival Action**

30. Plaintiffs incorporate and reallege all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

31. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies had a duty to train and/or supervise lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees to ensure the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

32. In addition or in the alternative, at all relevant times hereto, Defendant American Pool had a duty to train and/or supervise lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees to ensure the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

33. Defendant Brick Bodies' and/or Defendant American Pool's breaches of the aforementioned duty to train and supervise include but are not limited to: failing to supervise lifeguards on duty to ensure they remained attentive to persons in the pool, failing to train

lifeguards to react appropriately to drowning incidents, and otherwise failing to exercise ordinary care under the circumstances .

34. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Ruizhe Yao died.

35. As a further direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Plaintiffs and Ruizhe Yao were caused to suffer past, present, and future damages in excess of \$75,000, including but not limited to expenses for medical treatment, funeral expenses, physical pain and suffering, emotional pain and suffering, and mental fright and anguish.

**Count IV – Negligence Respondeat Superior – Wrongful Death Action**

36. Plaintiffs incorporate and reallege all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

37. Plaintiffs Haihua Yao and Ming Ma are the Personal Representatives of the Estate of Ruizhe Yao and bring this wrongful death action on behalf of the Estate.

38. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies, by and through its lifeguards who are its employees, agents, apparent agents and/or servants of Defendant Brick Bodies, was responsible for ensuring the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

39. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies represented to Ruizhe Yao and other invitees that its lifeguards were its employees, which Plaintiff relied upon. Therefore, the lifeguards, even if directly employed by a different entity, were the apparent agents of Defendant Brick Bodies for purposes of the aforementioned duty, which it breached.

40. In addition or in the alternative, Defendant American Pool, by and through its

lifeguards who are employees, agents, and/or servants of Defendant American Pool, was responsible for ensuring the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

41. Defendant Brick Bodies' and/or Defendant American Pool's breaches of the aforementioned duty include but are not limited to the following: failing to supervise persons swimming at the swimming pool, failing to properly monitor, failing to properly staff the pool, failing to properly supervise Ruizhe Yao, failing to react in a timely manner to a drowning incident, failing to initiate lifesaving procedures in a timely manner, and otherwise failing to act with reasonable care. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Ruizhe Yao died.

42. As a further direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Plaintiffs were caused to suffer past, present, and future damages in excess of \$75,000, including but not limited to funeral expenses, medical expenses, loss of services, loss of society, companionship, comfort, protection, care, attention, advice, counsel, guidance, loss of future earnings, grief, mental anguish, and emotional pain and suffering.

**Count V – Negligent Hiring & Retention – Wrongful Death Action**

43. Plaintiffs incorporate and reallege all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

44. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies had a duty to ensure that lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees were qualified to react appropriately to a drowning incident, which it breached.

45. In addition or in the alternative, at all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies had a duty to ensure that lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees were qualified to react appropriately to a drowning incident, which it breached.

46. Defendant Brick Bodies' and/or Defendant American Pool's breaches of the aforementioned duty include but are not limited to the following: failing to ensure its lifeguards were qualified to respond to drowning incidents, failing to provide appropriate training and supervision for lifeguards it hired, and otherwise failing to act with reasonable care under the circumstances.

47. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Plaintiffs were caused to suffer past, present, and future damages in excess of \$75,000, including but not limited to funeral expenses, medical expenses, loss of services, loss of society, companionship, comfort, protection, care, attention, advice, counsel, guidance, loss of future earnings, grief, mental anguish, and emotional pain and suffering

**Count VI – Negligent Training & Supervision – Wrongful Death Action**

48. Plaintiffs incorporate and reallege all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

49. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Brick Bodies had a duty to train and/or supervise lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees to ensure the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

50. In addition or in the alternative, at all relevant times hereto, Defendant American Pool had a duty to train and/or supervise lifeguards it hired and/or retained as employees to ensure the safety of persons swimming at the swimming pool located at 2430 Broad Avenue in Timonium, Maryland, which it breached.

51. Defendant Brick Bodies' and/or Defendant American Pool's breaches of the aforementioned duty to train and supervise include but are not limited to: failing to supervise lifeguards on duty to ensure they remained attentive to persons in the pool, failing to train

lifeguards to react appropriately to drowning incidents, and otherwise failing to exercise ordinary care under the circumstances.

52. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of Defendant Brick Bodies and/or Defendant American Pool, Plaintiffs were caused to suffer past, present, and future damages in excess of \$75,000, including but not limited to funeral expenses, medical expenses, loss of services, loss of society, companionship, comfort, protection, care, attention, advice, counsel, guidance, loss of future earnings, grief, mental anguish, and emotional pain and suffering

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs demand judgment of and against all Defendants, jointly and severally, for compensatory damages in excess of \$75,000.00, fees and costs, as well as such further and additional relief as the nature of this case may require and which this Honorable Court deems just and proper.

**DATED:** July 29, 2019

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

/s/Adam R. Leighton

Adam R. Leighton, Esq. (#17097)  
Brian Rosenberg, Esq. (#18902)  
1220 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Ste. 500  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 955-4529  
arl@cohenandcohen.net  
*Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

**DATED: July 29, 2019**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

*/s/Adam R. Leighton*  
Adam R. Leighton, Esq. (#17097)  
Brian Rosenberg, Esq. (#18902)  
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*Attorneys for Plaintiffs*